

I

LEES
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1963.

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

COUNCIL OFFICES,
CROSS STREET, LEES,
NR. OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

URBAN DISTRICT OF LEES

Chairman of the Council 1963-1964

Councillor F. Ward J.P.

Health Committee 1963-1964

Councillor H. K. Dyson, Chairman

Councillor J. Gartside

Councillor S. Pearson

Councillor F. Ward J.P.

Councillor H. Travis J.P.

Councillor F. Rowland

Councillor H. Slack J.P.

Councillor W. Dixon

Councillor J. G. Gartside

Councillor L. Vaughan

Councillor O. Bevan

Councillor F. Bennett

Councillor F. Woodhead

Councillor T. Needham

Councillor J. Rhodes.

Medical Officer of Health

G. R. BRACKENRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

"Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton,

Tel: MAIN 6251/2.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

E. J. H. FOSTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

J. W. RUSTIDGE, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Council Offices, Lees.

Tel: MAIN 1102

Council Offices,
Cross Street,
Lees,
Nr. Oldham.

September, 1964.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the
Urban District Council of Lees.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health of the district for the year 1963.

The year's statistics are given in the form adopted in recent reports, but in addition a table is included showing the number of persons in certain age-groups in the local population. This information has been derived from the report of the 1961 Census.

There was a slight fall in the population of the district in 1963, but there was again an increase in the number of births, 62 compared with 51 in 1962. The adjusted birth rate was 20.4 compared with 15.6 in 1962. The national birth rate for 1963 was 18.2.

64 deaths were recorded, giving an adjusted death rate of 15.1 compared with a national rate of 12.2

There was a substantial increase in the notifications of infectious disease, partly due to an outbreak of dysentery upon which I have commented in the body of the report.

Services for mothers and children continued during the year at the High Street Clinic. At the time of writing, dental sessions had finally been instituted at the clinic after considerable delays arising from difficulties of staffing and equipment.

In conclusion I must thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and support throughout the year, and I wish to acknowledge the valuable assistance given by the Clerk of the Council and the Staff of the Health Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. R. Brackenridge.

Medical Officer of Health.

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GENERAL STATISTICS.

(1)

Area in acres 288

Population.

Census 1961 3,730

Estimated Mid 1963 3,730

Number of Inhabited Houses.

Estimated 1962 1,462

Rateable Value £101,542

Sum represented by a Penny Rate £330

General rate per pound 1962/63 9s. 3d.

(2)

General Characteristics and Social Conditions of the District.

The district lies immediately east of Oldham, being between the boundary of this County Borough and the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Originally, the township was developed around the cotton mills, which were formally and principally the main source of local employment. However, there are now only two mills in active production in the district, whilst the remainder are converted to other industries, or used as storage premises. The re-equipping of one of the largest mills in the district has commenced.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births (Total) 62

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Legitimate	32	29
Illegitimate	1	-

Live Birth Rate per 1000 population:-

Crude Rate	16.6
Adjusted Rate	20.4
(Comparability Factor 1.23)	

Illegitimate Live Births per cent total of live births	1.6
Stillbirths	1
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 live and still births	15.9
Total live and stillbirths	63
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	1

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	16.1
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	16.4
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births ...	Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)...	Nil
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)....	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	15.9
Maternal Mortality Rate (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 live and still births	Nil

Total deaths (all ages) 64

Death Rate per 1000 population:-

Crude Rate	17.2
Adjusted Rate	15.1
(Comparability Factor .88)	

Principal Causes of Death:-

Diseases of Heart and Circulation	19
Cancer all sites	14
Vascular lesions of the nervous system ..	11

Comparability Factor.

This factor takes into account the age and sex structure of the local population as compared with that of England and Wales as a whole, and makes it possible to compare local rates with national rates.

CENSUS 1961.

Population by age-groups.

Total Population	3,730	%
Pre School (0 - 4)	213	5.7
Child Population.		
School (5 - 14)	517	14.0
Total	730	19.5
Men (15-64) "Male working population"	1,174	31.5
Women		
(15 - 44) "Reproductive Population"	638	17.0
45 - 60	461	12.0
Women 60 and over.	504	13.5
Elderly persons		
Men 65 and over.	223	6.0
Total pensionable	727	19.5

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS

Population		1963	1962	1961	1958	1953
		3,730	3,750	3,730	3,970	4,060
Live Births	No.	62	51	42	43	73
	Adj. Rate	20.4	15.6	12.4	11.9	18.0
Still Births	No.	1	0	0	1	0
	Rate	15.9	Nil	Nil	22.7	Nil
Total Live and Still Births	No.	63	51	42	44	73
Total Infant Deaths	No.	1	1	0	2	3
	Rate	16.1	19.6	Nil	46.5	41
Maternal Deaths	No.	0	0	0	0	0
	Rate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Deaths	No.	64	66	67	53	55
	Adj. Rate	15.1	16.0	18.3	13.9	12.1

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M	F	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
			Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Tuberculosis (N.P)	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant neoplasms -							
Stomach	4	-	4	1	3	1	1
Lung & Bronchus	1	-	1	3	1	-	1
Breast	-	1	1	1	-	2	-
Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other Sites	4	4	8	8	3	4	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	6	11	10	7	11	14
Coronary disease, angina	3	3	6	9	15	9	9
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other heart disease	4	4	8	9	12	9	9
Other circulatory disease	5	-	5	3	7	7	6
Influenza	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
Pneumonia	1	3	4	3	2	3	2
Bronchitis	4	2	6	7	8	5	8
Other disease of respiratory system	-	1	1	-	1	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1	1	-	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pregnancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined disease	3	1	4	3	2	1	1
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other accidents	-	1	1	3	1	-	2
Suicide	1	1	2	1	1	-	-
Totals	35	29	64	66	67	59	65

DEATHS - BY AGE GROUPS

YEARS	M	F	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
			Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Under 1	1	-	1	1	-	2	1
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 - 14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	1	1	2	1	2	-	2
45 - 64	7	3	10	14	18	19	19
65 - 74	12	11	23	22	18	13	23
Over 75	14	13	27	27	29	25	19
Totals	35	29	64	66	67	59	65

INFANT MORTALITY - 1963

Case of Death	Under 1 day	1 to 6 days	1 to 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 to 12 months	Total
Other diseases	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total	-	-	-	-	1	1

INFANT MORTALITY AND STILLBIRTHS - COMPARATIVE TABLE.

	1963	1962	1961	1958	1953
STILLBIRTH RATE (per 1000 total births)	15.9	Nil	Nil	22.7	Nil
NEO-NATAL RATE (per 1000 live births)	Nil	Nil	Nil	23.5	14.0
INFANT MORTALITY RATE (per 1000 live births)	16.1	20.0	Nil	46.5	41.0

There was one infant death during the year. The rather large variations in the figures in the above table, which occur from year to year, are mainly the result of the small numbers involved, rather than of significant changes in mortality.

PREVALENCE OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE - 1963

(Other than Tuberculosis)

Notifiable Disease	Total Notified Cases in Age Groups											Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.	
	Total cases at all ages.	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	46-	65-		
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	25	-	4	3	4	5	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	35	-	2	-	3	3	11	4	1	4	5	2	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	66	1	8	3	7	9	21	5	1	4	5	3	-	-

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES
YEARLY TOTALS

Notifiable Disease.	1963	1962	1961	1958	1953
Paratyphoid Fever	-	1	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	8	10	6	7
Measles	25	11	22	8	23
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	20
Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	3
Dysentery	35	3	6	22	2
Food Poisoning	-	1	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	1	3	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	66	29	38	36	55

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

A greater number of cases of infectious disease was notified during the year, than in 1962. This was due to a rise in the incidence of measles and the occurrence of 35 cases of dysentery.

Most of the cases of dysentery occurred in an outbreak in a local school, or were connected with this outbreak.

Fortunately, all the cases, which included both adults and children were of a mild nature, but the outbreak had considerable nuisance value in that there was some disruption of school routine.

All such outbreaks indicate a breakdown in hygiene standards; the chain of infection is bowel - hand - mouth. As the intimate contact of groups of young children tends to favour the spread of infection in, for example, nurseries and schools, the provision of modern and easily accessible W.C. and washing facilities is vital in helping to control this disease.

CASES NOTIFIED AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1963

Ages	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
25 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	2		-		-		-	1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES.

The Lancashire County Council, under the National Health Service Act, is the responsible authority for the provision and maintenance of personal health services. These services e.g.

- Care of Mothers and Young Children
- Mental Health Services
- Home Help Services
- Ambulance Services
- Care of School Children
- Care of the Aged
- General Welfare Services

are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme by Divisional Health Committee No. 14 through the Divisional Medical Officer, "Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton, (Tel: M.In 6251)

Ante-natal clinics are held twice monthly at the High Street Centre and child welfare clinics, school dental clinics and chiropody services for the aged are held weekly. School children requiring specialist opinion are referred to clinics in other parts of the division. Home helps are available to attend households where necessary in cases of confinement, illness, old age and infirmity. Over 70% of the demands on this service are for the care of the aged and infirm. A charge is made for home help services dependent on the means of the person helped.

Hospital facilities are provided and maintained through the Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committee without regard to local authority boundaries.

The examination of pathological specimens and samples of milk, ice-cream, water and other food is undertaken, without charge to the authority, by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester 10.

The Urban District Council is responsible for those matters likely to affect or be concerned with the maintenance of high standards of environmental health. These include:-

- Inspection of Houses re fitness for human habitation.
- Control of infectious disease (Including food poisoning)
- Control of food and food preparing premises.
- Provision of suitable water supplies.
- Detection and prevention of nuisances.
- Prevention of atmospheric pollution.
- Control of rodent and insect infestations.
- Collection and disposal of refuse.
- Provision of sanitary accommodation and public conveniences.

Council Offices,
Cross Street,
Lees.

September 1964.

Report of the Public Health Inspector

To: The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

The Annual Report for 1963 in respect of the environmental health and sanitary administration is submitted herewith.

General progress has been slow throughout the year, although there is an increase in the number of visits carried out by your Inspector. A further step forward in the Slum Clearance Programme has been made by the commencement of works on the Union Mills Site housing project.

The various details of inspections and works effected are tabulated on the subsequent pages for your information.

May I take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support in carrying out the work shown in this report. In particular, I am indebted to the Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk and Miss K. Wormald for their co-operation and assistance at all times.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours Sincerely,

J. W. Rustidge.

Public Health Inspector

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Drainage and Sewerage.

The whole district is drained and seweraged but the Authority possesses no sewage disposal works. Sewage is conveyed to sewers of the Oldham County Borough via three main junctions, the respective flows being measured by Lea recorders, and is treated by that authority at the disposal works in Slacks Valley, Chadderton.

Public Cleansing.

A weekly collection of domestic refuse has been maintained throughout the year, collection being direct from household bins to a refuse collector motor vehicle and disposed of by tipping. Tins are recovered for salvage whilst the refuse is hand levelled at the tip face and some paper is removed for incineration on the tip top.

Dustbins are replaced by the Council, the cost being borne by the General Rate fund. 67 B.S.S. dustbins fitted with rubber lids were supplied during the year as replacements. The number of moveable dustbins in the district is some 1589.

Rodent Control.

No full-time rodent operative is employed, all necessary works being carried out by members of the road maintenance staff who have attended Ministry courses of instruction in rodent destruction. The sewer system receives a twice yearly maintenance treatment, the second treatment having been by use of fluoracetamide. Complaints of rodent infestation are handled promptly and 25 rat and mouse infestations were successfully treated throughout the year.

Sanitary Accommodation

All houses in the district are on the water carriage system although not all possess a separate fresh water closet. 42 waste water closets still remain and progress in their elimination is very slow. Two were converted during the year under review.

Number of waste water closets ends 1963	42
Number of conversions during the year	2
Number of fresh water closets	1514
Number of houses on water carriage system	1462

Smoke Abatement

The authority co-operates in the joint scheme for the investigation of atmospheric pollution formed by 27 local authorities in the surrounding area. One lead peroxide gauge for the determination of sulphur pollution is sited in the Cemetery grounds, Thomas Street, Lees. Informal action was sufficient in dealing with minor smoke emissions from factory chimneys during the year, whilst the re-equipping of one of the largest cotton mills in the district has resulted in the removal of the old boiler plant.

Water Supply

The Oldham Corporation Waterworks supply serves the district, the source being that of upland surface water. The supply is subjected to filtration and sterilization by the chloramine process at its source. During the year, nine bacteriological samples taken at various points in the district were tested and reported as satisfactory.

Sanitary Inspections

During the year 787 visits were made to 481 premises, namely
368 dwellinghouses
82 shops and business premises
5 schools
26 factories.

In the dwellinghouses 181 defects or nuisances were found and during the year 152 of these matters were remedied. It was found necessary to serve 3 formal notices to ensure that the necessary repairs were carried out, whilst 65 informal notices and personal visits obtained the desired results in the majority of cases.

12 houses were found to be verminous but each infestation responded to a lindane/DDT treatment and was satisfactorily cleared.

Of the five schools in the district, one is a private school. All are connected to drainage systems and are served with mains water supply.

The facilities for drinking water and washing require improvements in two of the schools. At the time of this report, considerable improvements have been effected at one school, where trough closets have been eliminated and additional washing and drinking water facilities provided.

There are 26 factories among which 38 visits were made. 6 verbal notices under the act were issued and were found to be remedied on reinspection.

RODENT CONTROL WORK.

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses.	Other premises.	Agri-cultural.
Number of properties in the district	11	1440	397	2
Number of properties inspected	6	36	20	3
Number of properties found infested by:-				
Rats - Major	-	-	-	-
- Minor	-	10	2	-
Mice - Major	-	-	-	-
- Minor	-	0	4	-
Number of infested properties treated by local authority.	-	19	6	-

Inspection and Supervision of Food

The majority of the shops in the district sell foodstuffs of one type or another. Out of 88 shops there are 63 selling food for human consumption. The various trades are represented as under:-

General grocers	29
Greengrocers	2
Fishmongers	1
Butchers	6
Fish Fryers	5
Bakers/Confectioners	5
Sugar Confectioners	4
Inns, Clubs etc.	<u>11</u>
Total	<u>63</u>
	<u> </u>

During the year it was found necessary to issue a condemnation certificate in respect of one 6lb tin of Ox-Tongue.

There are 25 distributors of milk in the district, of whom 24 sell only "Sterilized Milk". Only designated milk is retailed, dealer's licences being issued by the Lancashire County Council.

There are no slaughter-houses registered in the district.

Sampling of foods is carried out by the Lancashire County Council. There were samples of foodstuffs obtained in the district, as listed below:-

- 1 Meat potted
- 1 Butter
- 1 Bacon
- 1 Bread roll
- 1 Flour confectionery
- 1 Almond Oil B.P.
- 1 Laxative.

Sixteen samples of milk were obtained (three of which were Channel Islands Milk).

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine.

H O U S I N G.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(i) By the local authority	Nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons	18

Inspection of dwelling-houses.

Number inspected formally or informally for housing defects.	117
Total inspections made.	189
Number found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation.	68
Number made fit following informal action	59
Number so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation at year end (estimated)	104

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
By owners	3
By local authority in default	Nil

Proceedings under Housing Acts.

Number which after service of formal notices were rendered fit.	
By owners	Nil
By local authority in default	Nil
Number demolished	1
Number closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owner	7
Parts of buildings closed	Nil
Number of clearance areas represented	Nil

House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 as amended by the Housing Act 1961.

	<u>Standard</u> <u>Grant.</u>	<u>Discretionary</u> <u>Grant.</u>
Number of applications for grants made by private individuals	25	1
Number of dwellinghouses affected	25	1
Number of applications approved	24	Nil
Any other action under the Acts	Nil	Nil

FACTORIES.

Premises. (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority.....	12	17	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	14	21	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
Total	26	38	-	-

Defects

Particulars. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector. (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1).....	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	6	6	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work).....	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	6	6	-	-	-	

Outworkers.

Nature of Work. (1)	Section 133				Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c). (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (5)	Notices served. (6)	Prosecutions (7)	
Wearing) Making apparel)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Wearing) Cleaning apparel) & Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-	

